Wheat production and imports

1369. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of wheat produced in India during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) what is the quantum of wheat imported from U.S.A. during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(c) whether there is any domestic scarcity or whether Indian farmers are not growing enough wheat as on today so as to compel Government to go for imports of wheat from U.S.A.;

(d) if so, the reasons for such scarcity and less production of wheat in India;

(e) if not, the reasons for opting for imports of wheat from U.S.A.; and

(f) whether it is also a fact that imported wheat from U.S.A. was found to be of inferior quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The quantum of wheat produced in India was 68.64 million tonnes in 2004-05, 69.35 million tonnes in 2005-06 and 74.89 million tonnes in 2006-07 (4th advance estimates released on 19.07.2007).

(b) No wheat was imported from U.S.A. on Government account during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07.

(c) There is no domestic scarcity of wheat in India, The production estimate of 74.89 million tonnes during 2006-07 is the second highest achievement after 76.39 million tonnes in 1999-2000.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Lack of funds for agricultural universities

†1370. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture universities of the country are not functioning properly due to scarcity of funds;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps for improving the said situation; and

(c) the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRl KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Agricultural education being a State subject, the budget of State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) is provided by the concerned State Governments. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/ Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) extends limited support to SAUs for education as development grant. This assistance has been increased from Rs.208.09 crores in Eleventh Plan to Rs. 1019.84 crores in Tenth Plan. With this increased Central assistance, most of the SAUs in the country are functioning properly.

(b) and (c) The ICAR/DARE has given high priority in revamping of Agricultural Education in the country in Tenth Plan in the context of new challenges. The major components of revamping include: developing state of art facilities, modernization of laboratories and class rooms, libraries, human resource development in cutting edge subjects, building niche area excellence, equipments, experiential learning units, facilities for engendering courses and vocational education etc. In addition special grants have been provided to SAUs as per details give in Statement *(See* below) for modernization and creation of excellence in specialized areas.

Statement

Special grants provided to State agricultural universities during Tenth Plan

SI. No.	Name of the University	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture & Technology, Jammu	68.00
2.	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana	100.00
3.	G.. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar*	50.00
4.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore*	50.00
5.	C. S. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur	10.13
6.	Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan	1323

*Funds to be released during 2007-08

Milk production

†1371. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of milk being produced in the country at present and requirement thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.